

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:  
a liquid crystal display panel,  
a nontacky silicone sheet having rubber elasticity and placed on and adhered to the liquid crystal display panel, and  
a transparent protection plate placed on and adhered to the silicone sheet,  
wherein a rate of change of length is substantially 0% when a sheet piece made of the silicone sheet and having a length of 100 mm, a width of 5 mm and a thickness of 2 mm is elongated in longitudinal direction by 150% for 5 minutes and then a pulling force is released.
2. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the silicone sheet has a surface roughness (Ra) of 5  $\mu\text{m}$  or lower.
3. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the silicone sheet has a ball number of 2 or lower, which is measured in a ball tack test in accordance with JIS Z0237.
4. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the silicone sheet has a JIS-A hardness of 2 to 70.
5. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the silicone sheet has Young's modulus of  $1 \times 10^6 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$  to  $8 \times 10^7 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$ .

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the silicone sheet includes a sheet-shaped silicone gel body and a silicone coating layer coating the silicone gel body, and the silicone coating layer is a nontacky layer having a higher degree of crosslinking than the silicone gel.

8. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 7, wherein the outer surface of the nontacky layer has a ball number of 2 or lower, which is measured in a ball tack test in accordance with JIS Z0237.

9. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein an antireflection layer is formed on the surface of the transparent protection plate on which surface the silicone sheet is not placed.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:  
a liquid crystal display panel,  
a silicone sheet placed on and adhered to the liquid crystal display panel and having a JIS-A hardness of 2 to 70, a surface roughness (Ra) of 5  $\mu\text{m}$  or lower, a ball number of 2 or lower, which is measured in a ball tack test in accordance with JIS Z0237, and Young's modulus of  $1 \times 10^6 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$  to  $8 \times 10^7 \text{ dyn/cm}^2$ , and

wherein a rate of change of length is substantially 0% when a sheet piece made of the silicone sheet and having a length of 100 mm, a width of 5 mm and a thickness of 2 mm is elongated in longitudinal direction by 150% for 5 minutes and then a pulling force is released, and

a transparent protection plate placed on and adhered to the silicone sheet.

11. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein an antireflection layer is formed on the surface of the transparent protection plate on which surface the silicone sheet is not placed.

12. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the transparent protection plate includes two transparent plates and a transparent electrode held between the transparent plates.

13. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 9, wherein the transparent protection plate includes two transparent plates and a transparent electrode held between the transparent plates.

14. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, wherein the transparent protection plate includes two transparent plates and a transparent electrode held between the transparent plates.

15. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 11, wherein the transparent protection plate includes two transparent plates and a transparent electrode held between the transparent plates.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a liquid crystal display device, comprising the steps of:

placing a nontacky silicone sheet having rubber elasticity on a liquid crystal display panel, and

removing air present at interfaces of the liquid crystal display panel and the silicone sheet by placing the silicone sheet[[]] and

Serial No. 10/021,072

using the nontacky silicone sheet of which rate of change of length is substantially 0% when a sheet piece made of the silicone sheet and having a length of 100 mm, a width of 5 mm and a thickness of 2 mm is elongated in longitudinal direction by 150% for 5 minutes and then a pulling force is released.

17. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method for producing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 16, further comprising the step of removing foreign matters on the outer surfaces of the silicone sheet using an adhesive substance.